

WAC 197-11-970 Determination of nonsignificance (DNS).

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal:

State Route 14 (SR 14) Marble Road Vic. to Belle Center Road. The project is designed to reduce accidents in the SR 14 corridor from Milepost (MP) 22.00 to MP 24.70. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) proposes to improve safety through this section of SR 14 located from Milepost (MP) 22.00 to MP 24.70. SR 14 is a major east-west traffic route along the Washington side of the Columbia River and is a primary arterial in Skamania County. The project is identified by WSDOT as a high accident corridor.

The project consists of WSDOT right of way, National Forest Service lands, private lands and conservation easements. This project will realign the highway to the north from MP 22.0 to MP 22.99. An existing auxiliary climbing shoulder from MP 23.06 to MP 23.29 will be rebuilt to full depth and width. A section of highway will be realigned to the south from MP 23.27 to MP 23.50. Another section of highway will be realigned to the north from MP 24.13 to MP 24.57; a westbound climbing lane will also be added to the project on this realigned section of highway. Two county roads and associated intersections with SR 14 will be improved. Marble Road will be realigned at the intersection with SR 14 to improve safety. Belle Center Road will be extended to match SR 14 realignment and left and right turn channelization will be added to SR 14 at MP 23.40. The abandoned roadway will be reverted to pervious surface. An alternatives analysis and other project information are available on the project webpage:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR14/MarbleRd/>

Major items of work for this project will include clearing and grubbing, grading, resurfacing, drainage improvements, guardrail installation and replacement, centerline rumble strips, signing, illumination and erosion control. The work will be accomplished with large construction equipment. The project will meet the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area requirements. All impacts to natural resources, including oak woodland impacts will be mitigated in accordance with permit conditions.

Construction is anticipated to begin in 2012 and be complete in 2013.

After review of the completed environmental checklist and other supporting information on file with the agency, WSDOT has determined that this proposal will not have a probable significant impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c).

Proponent:

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).

Location of proposal, including street address, if any:

The project limits are within Sections 17, 18, 19, and 20; Township 1 North; Range East, Willamette Meridian, in Skamania County, WA.

Lead agency: The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this DNS.

☐ This DNS is issued after using the optional DNS process in WAC 197-11-355. There is no further comment period on the DNS.

☒ This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below. The public is invited to comment on this DNS by submitting written comments no later than August 10, 2011 to Barbara Aberle, Environmental Manager, Washington State Department of Transportation, P. O. Box 1709, Vancouver, WA 98668. The lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below.

Responsible official: Barbara Aberle

Position/title: Environmental Manager Phone. 360-905-2186

Address: 11018 NE 51st Circle, Vancouver, WA 98682-6686

Date: July 27, 2011

Signature Barbara Aberle